

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-8 and 16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 16 are amended herein. No claims have been allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-6, 8 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wollnik (U.S. Patent No. 4,187,485).

In response in a first instance, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate therein limitations from claim 16, while correspondingly amending claim 16, to provide within amended claim 1 limitations which applicant believes to patentably distinguish applicant's invention from that which is disclosed within Wollnik.

In that regard, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate therein the limitation that applicant's planar spiral conductor layer is a single spiral planar spiral conductor layer.

In comparison, Wollnik's planar spiral conductor layer in Fig. 8 is a multi-spiral planar spiral conductor layer, and is apparently required by Wollnik to be a multi-spiral planar spiral conductor layer, such as to provide for adequately homogenizing magnetic dipoles in accord with Wollnik's invention (abstract).

67,200-262; TSMC 99-545
Serial Number 09/588,788

X (In response in a second instance, applicant has amended claim 2 to incorporate therein the limitations of claim 1, thus providing claim 2 as an independent claim. Within claim 2, applicant's successive series of variations of linewidths or spacings within applicant's planar spiral conductor layer provides applicant's planar spiral inductor with an enhanced Q value. In comparison, and in contradistinction with that which is asserted by the Examiner, applicant is unable to locate within Wollnik any disclosure of Q value enhancements for Wollnik's planar spiral inductor.

me co X (In response in a third instance, applicant has amended claim 4 to incorporate therein the limitations of claim 1, thus providing amended claim 4 as an independent claim. Within amended claim 4, applicant has also in particular excluded a non-uniform ellipse as a shape for applicant's planar spiral inductor.

In comparison, Wollnik, as cited by the Examiner, discloses a planar spiral inductor formed in a non-uniform ellipse shape which is apparently specifically required within Wollnik's invention in order to provide proper homogenization of magnetic dipoles within Wollnik's invention (abstract).

Thus, since each and every limitation within applicant's invention as disclosed and claimed within amended claim 1, amended claim 2 and amended claim 4 is not disclosed within Wollnik, in particular with respect to a planar spiral inductor structure fabricated from a planar spiral conductor layer with: (1) a single spiral planar spiral conductor layer; (2) an enhanced Q value; or (3) a particular set of geometric dispositions of the planar spiral conductor layer, applicant asserts that amended claim 1, amended claim 2 and amended claim 4 may not properly be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wollnik.

67,200-262; TSMC 99-545
Serial Number 09/588,788

Since all remaining claims within the foregoing rejection are dependent upon amended claim 1 and carry all of the limitations of amended claim 1, applicant additionally asserts that those remaining claims may also not properly be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wollnik.

In light of the foregoing response, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1, 4-6, 8 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wollnik be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wollnik in view of Ohmura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,392,013; hereinafter "Ohmura"). In response, applicant predicates patentability of applicant's claim 7 upon its dependence upon amended claim 1.

In light of the foregoing response, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of applicant's claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wollnik in view of Ohmura be withdrawn.

Other Considerations

The Examiner has cited no additional prior art of record not employed in rejecting applicant's claims to applicant's invention. No fee is due as a result of this amendment and response.

67,200-262; TSMC 99-545
Serial Number 09/588,788

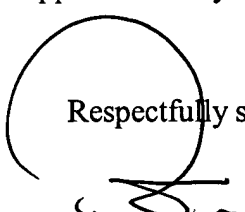
SUMMARY

Applicant's invention as disclosed and claimed within amended claim 1, amended claim 2 and amended claim 4 is directed towards a method for fabricating a planar spiral inductor structure comprising a planar spiral conductor layer, wherein a successive series of spirals within the planar spiral conductor layer is formed with a continuous variation in at least one of: (1) a series of linewidths of the successive series of spirals; and (2) a series of spacings separating the successive series of spirals. In the alternative, the planar spiral conductor layer is formed as a single spiral planar spiral conductor layer, or with a certain defined geometric shape, or yet alternatively to provide the planar spiral inductor with an enhanced Q value. Absent from the prior art of record employed in rejecting applicant's claims to applicant's invention is a disclosure of each and every limitation within applicant's invention as disclosed and claimed within amended claim 1, amended claim 2 and amended claim 4.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this application, and its early allowance, are respectfully requested. Any inquiries relating to this or earlier communications pertaining to this application may be directed to the undersigned attorney at 248-540-4040.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy W. Tung (Reg. No. 31,311)

838 West Long Lake Road - Suite 120
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
248-540-4040 (voice)
248-540-4035 (facsimile)